

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND PUBLIC COMMENT

The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Virginia Department of Health (VDH) and the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) seek written and oral comments from interested persons on the Draft report developed for a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for fecal coliform bacteria in shellfish propagation waters located in the City of Poquoson and York County, Virginia.

The impaired segments are located in VDH Growing Area 53 containing:

Growing Area 53 -137A Poquoson River: Chisman Creek

Growing Area 53 -137B Patrick's Creek

Growing Area 53 -137C Poquoson River

Growing Area 53 -137D Lambs Creek

Growing Area 53 -137E Poquoson River: Roberts Creek

Growing Area 53 -137F Lyons creek

Growing Area 53 -137G White House Creek

Growing Area 53 -137H Bennett Creek

Growing Area 53 -137I Easton Cove

Growing Area 53 -151 Back Creek

The impaired segments are located in VDH Growing Area 54 containing:

Growing Area 54 Cedar Creek, Northwest branch Back River

Growing Area 54 Topping Creek, Northwest branch Back River

Growing Area 54 Tabbs Creek, Northwest branch Back River

Growing Area 54 Watts Creek, Northwest branch Back River

Growing Area 54 Front Cove, Northwest branch Back River

Growing Area 54	S.W. Branch Back River
Growing Area 54	Harris River, Back River
Growing Area 54	Wallace Creek, Back River
Growing Area 54	Long Creek, Back River
Growing Area 54	Gundland Creek, Back River

All waters are tributaries to Chesapeake Bay.

The affected water body segments are identified in Virginia's 1998 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report as impaired due to violations of the State's water quality standard for fecal coliform bacteria in shellfish waters. Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and §62.1-44.19:7.C of the Code of Virginia, require DEQ to develop TMDLs for pollutants responsible for each impaired water contained in Virginia's 303(d) TMDL Priority List and Report.

This is the first public meeting, to provide information and solicit participation of citizens and local government in the development of the fecal coliform TMDL's to be held on March 16, 2006 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at the Poquoson City Council Chambers, 500 City Hall Avenue, Poquoson, Virginia 23662-1996. Directions can be obtained by calling Chester Bigelow at (804) 698-4554 or the City of Poquoson Offices at (757) 868-3000.

The public comment period will begin on March 17, 2006, and end on April 17, 2006. Questions or information requests should be addressed to Chester Bigelow and should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the comments. Requests should be sent to Chester Bigelow, Department of Environmental Quality, 629 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia, 23240, telephone (804) 698-4554, Fax (804) 698-4116, or e-mail ccbigeow@deq.virginia.gov.